

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 26, 2015
1:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 1332 HD 1
RELATING DROUGHT IRRIGATION

Chairpersons Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1332 HD1. The purpose of this bill is to appropriate moneys for maintenance and improvements to the Peekauai Ditch Irrigation System. The department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not impact the initiatives set forth in our executive biennium budget.

The Peekauai ditch irrigation system, also known as the Menehune Ditch, is run by the local farmers. While it is not a state owned system, we support the improvements of all irrigation projects that encourage the growth of Hawaii's diversified agricultural community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



finance8-Melanie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1332 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM

HB1332

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii SUPPORTS HB 1332, HD1, which appropriates moneys for maintenance and improvements to the Peekauai Ditch Irrigation System on Kauai (aka the Menehune Ditch). (HB1332 HD1)

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Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

Testimony in Support of HB1332, Relating to Irrigation

Appropriates moneys for maintenance and improvements to the Peekauai Ditch Irrigation System

Aloha Chair and committee members,

I am Kirby Kester, President of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA). HCIA is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes ag biotech to help farmers and communities succeed.

HCIA Supports HB1332

Efficient irrigation systems and techniques play a vital role in Hawaii's agricultural sector, given the unpredictable weather conditions like drought. It is therefore, imperative that irrigation systems throughout the state be properly maintained at all times. This bill will provide the State with the resources to achieve this objective and we assert that it will definitely benefit all of Hawaii's farming communities.

Thank You for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure.

HCIA 2014-2016 Board of Directors

President

Kirby Kester

Vice President

Alan Takemoto

Secretary

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Cindy Goldstein

Adolph Helm

Steve Lupkes

Grant Manning

Shay Sunderland

Mark Stoutemyer

Immediate Past President

Mark Phillipson

Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

P.O. Box 126

Aiea, HI 96701

Tel: (808) 594-3611

director@hciaonline.com

admin@hciaonline.com

www.hciaonline.com

finance1-Kim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 1:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: randy@kauaichamber.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1332 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM*

HB1332

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Francisco	Kauai Chamber of Commerce	Support	No

Comments:

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 12, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1332 HD 1
RELATING TO IRRIGATION

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of HB 1332 HD 1, which appropriates moneys for maintenance and improvements to the Peekauai ditch irrigation system.

The repair and maintenance of our irrigation systems is critical because our farmers and ranchers depend on these irrigation systems for their operations. Water availability is a basic necessity for farmers and ranchers to maintain and expand their production, particularly in times or drought manifested on many islands as a result of a changing climate. Moreover, a reliable water supply is a key factor when Hawaii's farmers and ranchers are making decisions to start new or to expand existing operations.

HFB would also like to offer additional irrigation systems to be added into this measure. After reaching out to our members, stakeholders, and the Department of Agriculture, a statewide list was assembled with various systems in desperate need of maintenance and repair. HB 502 and SB 584 SD 1, relating to irrigation, outlined an omnibus measure to address systems statewide. HB 502 has unfortunately died in committee and SB 584, SD1 has yet to be scheduled by the Senate money committee. HFB humbly asks this committee to review SB 584, SD 1 and add the additional irrigation systems to this current measure (see attached). Funding these statewide systems will provide needed water supplies to Hawaii's agricultural industry and directly impact the State's goals of food security and self-sufficiency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1332 and offer additional comments.

Statewide Irrigation system maintenance and improvements

TOTAL REQUEST: \$16,635,000

1. \$10,000 for Pee Ditch Maintenance, Kauai

Total \$10,000

2. \$75,000 for East Kauai Water User's Cooperative Maintenance, Kauai

Total \$75,000

3. \$8,000,000 for Galbraith Irrigation Infrastructure

Total \$8,000,000

4. \$1,000,000 Lower Hamakua Ditch Watershed Project, Hawaii

Total \$1,000,000

5. \$2,000,000 Upcountry Maui Watershed Project, Maui

Total \$2,000,000

6. \$700,000 Waimanalo Irrigation System Improvements, Oahu

Total \$700,000

7. \$1,500,000 for Exploratory well on Molokai

Plans	\$150,000
Design	\$150,000
Construction	\$1,200,000
Total	\$1,500,000

8. \$3,050,000 for Moloaa Well, Kauai

Land	\$500,000
Planning	\$600,000
Design	\$200,000
Construction	\$1,750,000
Total	\$3,050,000

9. \$300,000 for Waimea Irrigation Systems Improvements, Hawaii

Design	\$30,000
Construction	\$270,000
Total	\$300,000

Kauai County Farm Bureau

Affiliated with Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation

P.O. Box 3895, Lihue HI 96766-6895

808-855-5429

admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org

The Voice of Kauai's Agriculture



TESTIMONY

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015

Time: 1:30pm

Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

February 25, 2015

Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Vice Chair Scott Y. Nishimoto &
Members House Finance Committee
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Vice Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

RE: HB 1332 HD1

Relating to Irrigation, Peekauai Ditch Irrigation System Appropriation

Aloha! My name is Laurie Ho, President of the Kauai County Farm Bureau. The Kauai County Farm Bureau represents 250+ members. I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 1332 HD1.

As farmers, we know that reliable irrigation systems are the lifelines of our agricultural businesses. To ensure that our agricultural crops receive a steady and dependable supply of water, sufficient funding is necessary to have maintenance and improvements to these legacy irrigation systems. Peekauai ditch and this irrigation system is the lifeline for our farmers in the Waimea, Kauai area, especially our taro growers.

We kindly ask for your approval and support for HB1332 HD1.

Supporting all Farmers and all forms of Agriculture is our lifeline.

Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Laurie Ho, President

FIN-Jo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1332 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM*

HB1332

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No

Comments:

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finance8-Melanie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: swhalen@harc-hspa.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1332 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM*

HB1332

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie A Whalen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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P.O. Box 3895, Lihue HI 96766-6895

808-855-5429

admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org

The Voice of Kauai's Agriculture



TESTIMONY

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015

Time: 1:30pm

Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

February 25, 2015

LATE

Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Vice Chair Scott Y. Nishimoto &
Members House Finance Committee
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Vice Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

RE: HB 1332 HD1

Relating to Irrigation, Peekauai Ditch Irrigation System Appropriation

Aloha! My name is Laurie Ho, President of the Kauai County Farm Bureau. The Kauai County Farm Bureau represents 250+ members. I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 1332 HD1.

As farmers, we know that reliable irrigation systems are the lifelines of our agricultural businesses. To ensure that our agricultural crops receive a steady and dependable supply of water, sufficient funding is necessary to have maintenance and improvements to these legacy irrigation systems. Peekauai ditch and this irrigation system is the lifeline for our farmers in the Waimea, Kauai area, especially our taro growers.

We kindly ask for your approval and support for HB1332 HD1.

Supporting all Farmers and all forms of Agriculture is our lifeline.

Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Laurie Ho, President

"Kaua'i County Farm Bureau (KCFB) cultivates a thriving and prosperous agricultural sector, firmly rooted in the community, by working collaboratively to build long term support and providing a respected voice for Agriculture on Kauai " **adopted June 2012**

LATE

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I am Mark Phillipson, Corporate Affairs Lead for Syngenta Hawaii. Syngenta strongly supports HB 1332, which appropriates moneys for maintenance and improvements to the Pe'ekauai ditch irrigation system.

The repair and maintenance of our irrigation systems is critical because the future of agriculture in our state depends on these irrigation systems. Water is essential for farmers and ranchers to be productive. In addition, availability of a reliable water source is a critical consideration when planning on future activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1332.

finance1-Kim

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jerryo@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1332 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM

HB1332

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Ornellas	East Kauai Water User's Cooperative	Support	No

Comments: The taro farmers in Waimea need a consistent supply of water and this bill will help to provide that.

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